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MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1780.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

NUMB. XXIV.

THERE are some arguments of a popular kind, which they who advance them do not themselves believe. Of this sort is that argument which was made use of by our enemy, to induce the states of Europe to arm themselves against France, viz. That she is ambitious, and aspires to universal monarchy. This is of old date; nevertheless, because it was once believed, it may be still believed, and therefore I have judged proper to advance it. We shall take the liberty to examine the ground of this charge, and to see with what justice it has at any time been brought, or may now be brought, against our ally.

From the middle of the fifteenth century, when Charles V. had united in himself the possessions of the house of Burgundy and Castile to his paternal inheritance, the house of Austria had become the dominant power of Europe, and, like "a stone cut from the mountain" rolled down with great rapidity, and bid fair to destroy every power that stood in the way of it. Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden, possessing all those qualities that constitute the hero, at the head of the most powerful and warlike nation of the north, and assisted by the subsidies of France, had opposed the formidable bulk of this empire, and commenced hostilities the 26th of June, 1630, on the isle of Rugen. But though this warrior, long and glorious to the Swedes, and many noble captains signalized themselves in the contention, yet the battle of Nortlingen, September 6, 1634, gave to the emperor a decided superiority, and from this time France alone remained to oppose, by her councils and her arms, that power, which, though divided into two branches, the empire under Ferdinand III. Spain and its dependencies under Philip IV. the one the brother, and the other the son of Charles V. yet continued one in interest, and united in affection, and might be justly styled the ruling power of Europe. France alone opposed this power, and for more than half an age was the bulwark against it. What liberty exists in that quarter of the globe was kindled, kept alive, and defended by her. She gave liberty and independence to the states of Holland, in which they were established by the famous treaty of Munster, concluded at Antwerp, April 8, 1609. She preserved the possessions and the liberty of the princes and the states of Italy, who were ready to be swallowed up by that power, which now occupied the kingdoms of Naples and of Lombardy. She secured the balance of the empire, in giving vigour to its antient laws, in prescribing limits to the sovereignty of the emperor, in obtaining to the states the liberty of making alliances amongst themselves and with strangers, by which means the diets of the empire were rendered free.

It was not till about the middle of the fifteenth century, that France began to take the ascendant in Europe, and having greatly humbled the power of Austria, to be herself the object of jealousy with other powers. Cardinal Mazarine, who was then minister to Louis XIV. far from moderating the ambition of the young monarch, rather inflamed it, and France, elated with her past success, and the reputation of her generals, and trusting to that oyster which began to be established in her finances, and to the prosperity of her commerce, continued still to say that it was necessary to humble the house of Austria, which had been already humbled sufficiently. The death of Philip IV. served for a pretext of the war which she declared. Louis pretended, that the queen his wife had the right of inheritance of the Low Countries, and, in 1667, he entered there, to take possession of those provinces which the court of Madrid had refused to cede to him.

The success of the French arms was rapid, and the triple alliance between the states of Holland, England, and Sweden, was the fruit of that consternation which was produced by them. The peace of Aix la Chapelle, which followed quickly after, somewhat calmed their fears. Nevertheless, there still remained in the minds of men some apprehensions of the ruling power of France. The former fears sprung up again in all their force when Louis XIV. renewed his claim that made war upon the states in 1672. They were industriously propagated through all the courts of Europe. It was said that the ambition of the court of France threatened them with the same dangers that the successors of Charles V. had caused them to apprehend. These rumours spread every where by the politics of Orange, and those engaged in his interests, were at the same time supported by the courts of Vienna and of Madrid. This was the origin of that idea which universally prevailed, that France had aspired to universal monarchy.

The prince of Orange who in the revolution of 1688 to England was placed on the throne of that kingdom, was the avowed enemy of France. In the year 1689, he had published that there was an end of the liberty of Europe if the French empire was not immediately restrained, and kept within that degree of power in which it had been placed at the treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659. There was nothing heard but of opposing the house of Austria to the house of Bourbon, and of balancing their credit and their forces, to hold them in equilibrio. But after the revolution in England, the prince of Orange, now William III. took up other principles, and thought no longer of restraining, but of ruining the power of France.

In this spirit was associated that treaty concluded at Vienna, May 12, 1689, between the emperor and the states general, and afterwards called the grand alliance, because all the enemies of France acceded to it. By this treaty it was stipulated that no one of the contracting parties should admit any proposal of accommodation until each had received a full satisfaction for the wrongs which they had believed themselves to have sustained. The government of Louis was too intelligent to expect to rise from this labyrinth to which the union of so many opposite interests had thrown it, by any other means than by procuring a dissolution of this union. While therefore the war was carried on with vigour, a negotiation was set on foot with the several powers. The success was equal to the prudence of the measures, and the peace of Ryswick, comprehending the states general, Spain, Sweden, and the empire, the king of Denmark, the elector of Brandenburgh, the duke of Brunswick Lunenbourgh, Zell and Wolfenbuttle, and Frederick William elector of Brandenburgh, was concluded in 1678 and 1679.

The ambition of Louis XIV. and his resentment to the powers combined against him, were the true causes of the war of 1688. The rights of the duchess of Orleans, to the succession of her brother the elector Palatine, and those of cardinal Furstemberg to the archbishopric of Cologne, were but pretexts for it. In order to humble the power of his enemies, Louis thought it necessary to prevent them, and was able to make an irruption into Germany to suspend the progress of the imperials in Hungary, and to raise the confidence of the Turks after the taking of Belgrade.

The war was carried on for many years, with extraordinary efforts on both sides, and the success of the French arms, which, in any other conjuncture, would have been sufficient to have reduced the allies to ask a peace, or at least not to reject it, answered no other end but to irritate them still more, and to give scope to those principles of jealousy and hatred which had first engaged them in the war. In seeing that the conqueror was we seized by advantages too dearly purchased, the vanquished became obstinate to their disgraces, and patiently supported the decline of their commerce, and the bad state of their finances, now totally exhausted. While they supported armies twice or thrice more considerable than those which they had before the peace of the Pyrenees, the states richest in men and money must have been reduced. France, though victorious, was reduced to seek expedients and resources to carry on the war, a demonstrative evident that she was not fet up to extend conquests, and that her enemies had no ground to apprehend that she was about to subjugate Europe. The monarch tired of a war which burthened his subjects, sincerely desired peace. He neglected nothing which could give weight to the advances which he made. He pended finally the king of Sweden to offer his mediation, and declared, in the mean time, the conditions on which he was ready to make a peace, but Europe was accustomed to be afraid of him, and the more he gave proofs of moderation, the less he persuaded any one. No one would believe that he was sincere, and all the world suspected some design concealed under these offers. The idea of universal monarchy was full in their minds, and whether he made war, or offered peace, it was suspected to be with some view to this great object.

It was not until 1693 that Louis XIV. was able to bring his enemies to listen to terms of agreement, and not till three years afterwards, August 22, 1696, that a peace concluded at Turin, between this court and that of Versailles, became the signal of a general peace, confirmed by the contracting parties, at Ryswick, in 1697.

It was a full evidence that the prince of Orange, who had first disseminated the ideas of universal monarchy on the part of France, did not seriously believe there was any ground for these, that he himself afterwards, when he became king of England, and was established on the throne, entered into two partition treaties with the court of France, the first of which was signed at the Hague, October 11, 1698; some time before the conclusion of the peace of Ryswick. Louis XIV. had a claim to the succession of the Spanish monarchy, in right of Maria Theresa, his wife, and the Dauphin had married the daughter of the king of Spain. William III. king of England, was anxious to secure a barrier to the Dutch in the Netherlands, and for that reason entered into an agreement with the king of France, to make a partition of the Spanish monarchy. By this treaty, the electoral prince of Bavaria, who, in supporting the validity of the renunciation of Maria Theresa, to her rights, was the nearest heir of Charles II. king of Spain, was to obtain the whole inheritance, except some states, which were to be dismembered in favour of the Dauphin, and the arch-duke Charles, a son of the emperor. To the one was given the two Sicilies, the Spanish isles, the places on the coast of Tuscany, the marquisate de Final and the province of Guipuscoa, to the other was to enjoy the Milanese.

The death of the young prince of Bavaria, which happened [illegible] made it necessary to think of a new negotiation was set on foot, and France, England, and the states-general agreed, by a second treaty of partition, signed in London, March 3, 1700, and ratified the 25th of the same month, that the provinces already promised to the Dauphin, the duchies of Lorrain and of Bar, with the islands of the house of Lorrain. The arch-duke Charles was to possess the remaining part of the succession of the Spanish monarchy. In fine, it was regulated, that the crowns of Spain and the Indies should never belong to a prince, who was emperor or king of the Romans, the king of France, or the Dauphin.

It was these partition treaties, entered into by William III. king of England, that rendered it advisable for Charles II. king of Spain, who died in 1700 to leave his crown by testament to the Dauphin. Louis XIV. by accepting this will, ran counter to the views of king William, who, as we have already said, had consented a part of the Spanish Netherlands, to be a barrier to the states of Holland, for whom, as having been their stadtholder, he had preserved a particular affection, and hoped for more stable support to his views of aggrandizement from them, than from the people of England, who had reduced the prerogative of their princes to narrow limits, and whose affections, he well knew, were fluctuating and uncertain. It was to revenge himself on the French king for departing from the last treaty of partition, that William once more excited the ideas of unlimited ambition on the part of France, and brought several of the powers of Europe to engage in war against that monarchy. England was but the dupe of

William in the part which she took in this war. It is the language of Mrs. Macauley, in her history of England from the revolution, lately published, "That as England did not pretend to lay claim to any part of the Spanish or French dominions, nor had sustained any real injury, or serious provocation from the king of France, the declared end of the war was to put the house of Austria in possession of the throne of Spain, and to procure a barrier for the Dutch in the Netherlands."

The confederate powers of England and the states, with the house of Austria, were in this war engaged against France. King William died March 8, 1702; but the same system was adopted under his successor queen Anne, and the war was continued by the same general under which it was begun, John duke of Marlborough. The earl of Godolphin, the earl of Sunderland, and others, who were at the head of the affairs of England, and were supported by the whig party at that time unworthy of the name, found it necessary to continue this system, in order to support themselves; and therefore, without believing that Louis was more ambitious than his neighbours, or that there was the least danger from his arms, were strenuous to carry on the war. The duke of Marlborough, whose interest, by means of the duchess his wife, was great with his sovereign, aided those counsels, and was subservient to them; for war was to him the only field of riches and of glory.

The losses on the part of France, in this war, were great, and fortune continuing to favour the allies, it was proposed to the states general by the marquis de Torcy, that Louis would consent even to agree upon measures to force the Dauphin, now Philip V. to renounce in two months the crown of spain and be contented with Sicily; but the offer was refused. We have already shewn, that the private interest of a few individuals in England governed these matters. The rest of the world were engaged, by the vain fears of ambition, and over-grown power on the part of France, to support them in these views. England had now in reality become, by her armies and her fleets, the dominant power of Europe!

Nevertheless, it was a long time before it was discovered by her neighbours. The former surmises were industriously kept up, and the French ambition still remained the great object of invective, as her power was the great source of declamation. The impressions made on the minds of men by some early instances of ambition on the part of Louis, still remained in some degree, and they were guided by them even after this monarch had shewn himself willing to make peace almost upon any terms. It is with the opinions of men, as with the waves of the ocean, which continue to roll a long time after the storm which at first excited them, has subsided.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

FISH-KILL, *Dec.* 16.

WE have just received a piece of intelligence well authenticated. That part of our prisoners in Canada are lately sent off, it is said to England; those remaining, officers and soldiers, are ordered to close confinement. Our enemies begin to doubt the fidelity of the Canadians.

Dec. 23. We learn that on the 12th inst. 110 vessels sailed from Sandy-Hook, with troops, supposed for the West-Indies.

We are informed that the *Refugees* in New-York are in distressed circumstances, several large families being obliged to crowd in one small room, and other families cannot even procure that convenience, but are obliged to live on board ships in the harbour, and provisions amazingly *scarce* and *dear*.

TRENTON, *Dec.* 22.

Extract of a letter from Bethlehem, Dec. 18.

"I rode out to day on purpose to take a view of our encampments. I found it excessively cold but was glad to see most of our poor soldiers were under good roofs. The encampments are exceeding neat the huts are all of a size, and placed in more exact order than Philadelphia: you would be surprised to see how well they are built without nails. Head quarters is at Morristown, and the army extends from thence along the hills nearly to this place."

We have authentic intelligence from New-York, that between five and six thousand troops embarked there within a few days past, supposed to be bound to Georgia or the West-Indies.

Extract from Rivington's Royal Gazette.

SAVANNAH, (Georgia) *Oct.* 28. Last Monday died here, greatly lamented by the whole army and inhabitants, the honourable lieutenant-colonel Maitland, of the 71st regiment, brother to the right honourable the earl of Lauderdale: and next evening his remains were deposited with all the honours of war, in the family vault of the honourable John Graham Esq;—

PHILADELPHIA, *Dec.* 23.

The following letters were found on board a vessel lately taken on her passage from St. Augustine to Antigua.

Extract of a letter from John Twam, at St. Augustine, to Messrs. Jarvis and Scott, merchants, in Antigua.

GENTLEMEN,

"If the two Carolinas and Georgia are reduced (my former connections being there) it will suit my interest beyond what I have lately expected. My best services where ever I am you will please to command. The produce of your island must in my opinion sell well, as the article of rum particularly advanced to a high price at New-York on the different embarkations taking place; no supplies from this can be sent but what is trifling. Colonel Campbell will have six thousand men under his command, with which we are told he is to penetrate into the back country of South-Carolina, in order to open a communication with the loyalists of North-Carolina, who are said to be numerous; the plan carries with it a probability of success, and time must evince the truth of the experiment."

Extract of a letter from Joseph Farley, at St. Augustine, to Lewis Johnston, Esq; merchant there in Antigua.

St. Augustine, July 30, 1779.

"Sir James Wright, lieutenant-governor Graham, and Mr. Stokes, C. J. &c. are arrived, and have taken possession of their several departments; great matters are now expected to happen from their arrival, having come out with full and particular instructions respecting the establishing of order, &c. and proceedings in that province. Georgia at all events will be secured, and it is thought the other southern provinces this winter. We know how easily Carolina can be conquered when set seriously and properly about. Colonel Campbell did me the honour of appointing me provost marshal of the province, which I make no doubt will be continued by Sir James Wright: at present there is little done in that department, but a short time hence Plancy will fill my hands."

Extract of a letter from Panton, Forbes and Co. at St. Augustine, to Messrs. John and Alexander Campbell, in Antigua.

St. Augustine, August 2, 1779.

GENTLEMEN,

"We are favoured with yours of the 1st June, which reached us the 23d ult. and we embrace this opportunity to prevent if possible your sending negroes to Georgia. The impression lately made in the province of South-Carolina by our troops has given privateers and others such an opening, that many hundred slaves have been lately taken and sold at this place and Savannah; indeed we are so much over-stocked with them, that some persons at Savannah are attempting to send them to the islands upon speculation. This shews that negroes will by no means answer at the present juncture, and makes us anxious to dissuade you from so hazardous an adventure.

"The disappointment general Prevost has met with in his expectation of taking Charles Town will convince the commander in chief that a very respectable force is requisite to reduce that opulent and powerful country, and as we have no doubt it will be an object of attention the approaching winter, Georgia will be a great market for rum and other liquors. Very large supplies of prize sugar and coffee has kept down the price of these articles for a long while past; but the consumption of rum is so great that hardly any supply is equal to it."

Extract of a letter from Peter Edwards, at St. Augustine, to Lewis Johnston, Esq; merchant there in Antigua.

St. Augustine, August 14, 1779.

"I have lately returned from Georgia. You have heard I suppose of the melancholy fate of my dear brother Alexander Martin; he unhappily fell in arms on the day Savannah was taken. Poor fellow! easily persuaded, or rather excited by his intrepid spirit—having been branded with the epithet of coward by some who dare not face him—fell a sacrifice in supporting a cause his heart abhorred. How much grief Mrs. Edwards and myself must have experienced on the melancholy occasion, your own feelings will suggest. Sorry am I to inform you, that little distinction is paid to loyalists; ravage and plunder take place indiscriminately. Poor Georgia has been sadly ransacked—You would not know Abercorn scarcely—the house only remains. God only knows when, and where our troubles will end—For my part, I view peace farther distant than we left Georgia, and was I writing by an armed vessel, I would write you more fully on this subject."

NOTICE is hereby given, that by an act of assembly, made and passed at a session of assembly of the state of Maryland, begun and held at the city of Annapolis, on the 8th day of November, 1779, the bills of credit, dated January 1, 1767, emitted and made current by an act of assembly, passed November session, 1766, are directed to be brought in and deposited with the western shore treasurer, on or before the first of June next, or thereafter irredeemable, for which the holders of said bills of credit may, at their option, receive other bills of exchange drawn on the trustees of said state at London, or state loan-office certificates, bearing an annual interest of six per cent.

N. B. The printers in the adjacent states are requested to insert the above in their respective papers.

A PETITION will be offered to the first session of the general assembly after this notice shall have been published eight weeks; for an act admitting to record, and giving effect from the date to a deed executed in Prince George's county, by George Conn to Joshua Shaw, for part of a tract of land called William and Anne.

w8 RICHARD HENDERSON.

In COUNCIL, Annapolis, Dec. 17, 1779.

ANY gentleman having vessels to let on freight to Europe or the W. I. Indies, and willing to treat with the Governor and Council, are requested to transmit their proposals as speedily as convenient.

T. JOHNSON, jun. cl.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

January 6, 1780.

RAN away from the subscriber's plantation, about seven miles from Anna'olis, on the main road leading from thence to Baltimore, on Monday the 21st day of December last, a likely young NEGRO man, named TOM, about five feet eight inches high, a stout well set fellow with thick lips, and his legs rather large: had on when he went away, a light coloured country made cloth jacket, with a red short waistcoat under it, a pair of light coloured country cloth breeches, and also took with him a pair of leather breeches, dark coloured yarn stockings, and two pair of shoes. It is apprehended that he may have endeavoured to get over into Virginia, from whence he was brought when a small boy and was then the property of John Morris Jordan, Esq; deceased. Whoever will apprehend the said negro, and bring him to the subscriber, shall receive the above reward if taken in Maryland, and if out of Maryland a further reward of one hundred dollars, besides all reasonable charges, paid by

2 ELIZABETH SCOTT.

ONE HUNDRED and SIXTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, October 16, 1779.

STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber, on Wednesday the 6th of October instant, a dark bay MARE, four years old last spring, branded with an F and a B, one hind foot white, a small blaze down the face in the form of a half moon at the top, one of her fore hoofs split, fifteen hands high, trod all rounds, paces and trots. Whoever will bring the said mare home to the subscriber in Annapolis, or Thomas Jones, blacksmith in Baltimore, shall receive 100 dollars reward, if only strayed away, but if stolen 160 dollars for the mare and thief.

6 JOHN TOWNSLEY, Coppersmith.

THE subscriber wants a number of COARSE SHOES made, for which good wages will be given; shoemakers may take them out in quantities.

A CURRIER will meet with encouragement by applying to

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH,

Of whom a good price may be had for coarse shoe thread.

CASH given for clean Linen and Cotton RAGS.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE in Church-Street.